

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PHELPS GAS COMPANY, INC.	)	
	)	
_____	)	CASE NO. 91-204
	)	
ALLEGED VIOLATION OF KRS 278.160	)	

O R D E R

Phelps Gas Company, Inc. ("Phelps"), a Kentucky corporation, owns, operates, and manages facilities used in connection with the distribution and sale of natural gas to the public for compensation and is, therefore, a public utility subject to Commission jurisdiction. KRS 278.010(3)(b) and 278.040.

KRS 278.160(2) prohibits any public utility from charging, demanding, collecting, or receiving "from any person a greater or less compensation for any service rendered or to be rendered than that prescribed in its filed rate schedules."

Commission Staff has submitted to the Commission a Utility Billing Inspection Report dated May 17, 1991, appended hereto, which alleges, inter alia, that Phelps has charged rates for service rendered on and after January 1, 1991 which exceed those set forth in its filed rate schedules. The Commission finds that this report constitutes prima facie evidence that Phelps has failed to comply with KRS 278.160(2).

The Commission HEREBY ORDERS that:

1. Phelps shall submit to the Commission within 20 days of the date of this Order a written response to the allegations that it is failing to comply with KRS 278.160(2).

2. Phelps shall appear on July 30, 1991 at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices at 730 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of presenting evidence concerning its alleged failure to comply with KRS 278.160(2) and of showing cause, if any it can, why it should not be subject to the penalties of KRS 278.990 for its alleged failure.

3. Phelps shall immediately cease charging rates not prescribed in its filed rate schedule.

4. Within 20 days of the date of this Order, Phelps shall submit to the Commission a schedule showing the amount of all unauthorized rates billed since January 1, 1991 and identifying each customer billed unauthorized rates, the total amount of unauthorized rate billed, and the billing period in which these rates were collected.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 26th day of June, 1991.


PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
Chairman

  
Vice Chairman

  
Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director



## APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE  
KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 91-204  
DATED 6/26/91

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
730 SCHENKEL LANE  
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FRANKFORT, KY. 40602  
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### UTILITY BILLING INSPECTION REPORT


MIKE LITTLE GAS COMPANY, INC.  
ELZIE NEELEY GAS COMPANY, INC.  
PHELPS GAS COMPANY, INC.


On May 16, 1991, a billing inspection was performed at the utilities' office in Melvin, Kentucky. During the inspection, Commission Staff reviewed billing documents including, but not limited to, the monthly computerized billing information and interviewed Virginia S. Gibson, Bookkeeper.

The following items were noted for the time period for service rendered on or after January 1, 1991:

1. The rates charged to Mike Little's customers exceed the authorized usage rates by \$.0348 per Mcf.
2. The rates charged to Phelps' customers exceed the authorized usage rates by \$.0291 per Mcf and a surcharge of \$.25 on the first Mcf and \$.20 all over 1 Mcf.
3. The rates charged to Elzie Neeley's customers exceed the authorized usage rates by \$.0291 per Mcf.

Dated this 17TH day of May 1991.

  
Jordan C. Neel  
Public Utility Rate  
Analyst Chief

  
Leah Faulkner  
Public Utility Rate  
Analyst Chief